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OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 L-03 H-01 PA-01
INT-05 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 CEQ-01 /179 W

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R 050845Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 620

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

DEPT OF TREASURY

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DEPT FOR NEA

USEEC

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EFIN, KU, OPEN

SUBJ: KUWAIT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, 1962-1977

1. SUMMARY: INTERNAL KUWAIT FINANCE MINISTRY REPORT INDICATES THAT, SINCE INDEPENDENCE (1961 AND THROUGHT 1977, KUWAIT HAS GIVEN TOTAL OF \$6.2 BILLION IN AID (\$2.5 BILLION IN GRANTS, \$2 BILLION IN LOANS AND \$1.7 BILLION THROUGH MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS). KUWAIT CONTRIBUTED AN AVERAGE OF 9.4 PERCENT OF ITS GNP IN AID DURING 1970-1977, OR ROUGHLY \$11,000 PER KUWAITI OVER THIS PERIOD. FACT THAT TWO-THIRDS (\$2.9 BILLION) OUT OF TOTAL OF \$4.5 BILLION IN BILATERAL LOANS AND GRANTS WAS GIVEN BETWEEN 1974 AND 1977 INDICATES UPWARD TREND IN ASSISTANCE SINCE 1973 OIL PRICE RISE. INCREASE IN LOANS TO NON-ARAB COUNTRIES FROM 35 PERCENT OF TOTAL LOANS IN 1975 TO 48.5 PERCENT IN 1977 INDICATES BROADENING OF KUWAITI AID TO NON-ARAB WORLD. REPORT DOES NOT INCLUDE FIGURES FOR "DEPOSITS" MADE WITH LDC CENTRAL BANKS WHICH ARE UNLIKELY TO BE WITH-DRAWN, AND MAY NOT INCLUDE \$700 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO GULF CONFIDENTIAL.

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ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT (GODE). HENCE, FIGURES CITED ARE, IF ANYTHING, CONSERVATIVE, AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED MINIMUM ESTIMATE OF KUWAITI FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

- 2. ECON CHIEF RECENTLY OBTAINED INTERNAL KUWAIT FINANCE MINISTRY STUDY, DATED FEB. 15, 1978, WHICH PROVIDES EXTENSIVE STATISTICS ON ALL KUWAITI ASSISTANCE FROM YEAR AFTER INDEPENDENCE WHEN SUCH AID BEGAIN (1962) THROUGH DEC. 31, 1977. DETAILS, AND COPY OF REPORT, WILL FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM. SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION PROVIDED BY STUDY IS AS FOLLOWS.
- 3. TOTAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: SINCE 1962 KUWAIT HAS PROVIDED TO LDC'S APPROXIMATELY \$2 BILLION IN LOANS AND \$2.5 BILLION IN GRANTS. IT HAS CONTRIBUTED \$1.7 BILLION TO MULTILATERAL AID INSTITUTIONS, FOR A TOTAL OF \$6.2 BILLION IN FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. MOST OF THIS (\$5.45 BILLION) WAS GIVEN IN THE PERIOD 1970-1977.
- 4. AID TO GNP RATIO. TOTAL KUWAIT GNP FOR THE PERIOD 1970 THROUGH 1977 IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$58.3 BILLION. THE \$5.45 BILLION IN AID CITED ABOVE MEANS KUWAIT, ON THE AVERAGE,

CONTRIBUTED 9.4 PERCENT OF ITS GNP IN AID DURING THE PERIOD 1970 THROUGH 1977. SINCE THE AID FIGURE DOES NOT INCLUDE LARGE "DEPOSITS" MADE WITH LDC CENTRAL BANKS WHICH ARE UNLIKELY TO BE RETURNED, THE ACTUAL AID FIGURE, AND AID AS A PERCENTAGE OF GNP, IS PROBABLY HIGHER.

5. PER CAPITA AID: THE TOTAL OF KUWAIT NATIONALS AT THE END OF 1977 WAS ABOUT HALF A MILLION, LEADING TO A ROUGH FIGURE OF \$11,000 IN AID GIVEN PER KUWAITI OVER 1970-1977. SINCE KUWAITI POPULATION INCREASED BY 6 PERCENT ANNUALLY OVER THE PERIOD 1970-1977, THE PER CAPITA AID FIGURE IS IN FACT HIGHER. FOR CY 1977, TOTAL LOANS AND GRANTSIN AID AMOUNTED TO 7.50 MILLION, OR \$1,500 IN AID GIVEN PER KUWAITI. THIS FIGURE DOES NOT INCLUDE ASSISTANCE THROUGH MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH BROUGHT TOTAL ASSISTANCE IN 1977 TO WELL OVER \$1 BILLION, OR WELL OVER 2,000 PER CAPITA IN AID.

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6. EXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCE. THE FINANCE MINISTRY STUDY RIGHTLY POINTS OUT THAT KUWAIT'S AID IS BASED ON DEPLETION OF THE EXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCE ON WHICH KUWAIT'S ECONOMY IS BASED, OIL. HENCE THE COUNTRY'S AID DRAIN IS GREATER THAN THAT FOR DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHOSE ECONOMIES ARE LARGELY BASED ON RENEWABLE RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

7. TRENDS. BECAUSE CONTRIBUTIONS TO MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS ARE NOT BROKEN DOWN BY YEAR IN THE STUDY, PRECISE FIGURES ON TRENDS IN AID PER YEAR ARE NOT AVAILABLE. HOWEVER THE FACT THAT TWO-THIRDS (\$2.9 BILLION) OF THE TOTAL OF \$4.5 BILLION IN LOANS AND GRANTS SINCE 1962 WERE GIVEN IN THE PERIOD 1974-1977 IS INDICATIVE OF AN UPWARD TREND IN ASSISTANCE SINCE THE 1973 OIL PRICE RISE. THE MODERATE INCREASE IN ANNUAL GRANTS AND LOANS FROM \$656 MILLION IN 1975 TO \$750 MILLION IN 1977 PROBABLY UNDERSTATES THE TREND, SINCE KUWAITI CONTRIBUTIONS TO MULTILATERAL AID FACILTIES HAVE INCREASED IN THE LAST 2-3 YEARS.

8. MORE AID TO NON-ARAB COUNTRIES. OF TOTAL LOANS AND GRANTS GIVEN IN THE PERIOD 1962 THROUGH 1977, THE REPORT INDICATES THAT 87.9 PERCENT WENT TO ARAB COUNTRIES, 4.5 PERCENT TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES, AND 7.6 PERCENT TO "OTHER" (MOSTLY ASIAN) COUNTRIES. GRANTS CONTINUE TO GO ALMOST ENTIRELY (98.8 PERCENT IN 1977) TO ARAB COUNTRIES. LOANS, HOWEVER, HAVE

INCREASINGLY GONE TO NON-ARAB COUNTRIES (48.5 PERCENT IN 1977 COMPARED TO 35 PERCENT IN 1975). CONFIDENTIAL

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9. COMMENT. IN ITS TABLE ON "KUWAIT SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CAPITAL OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS", REPORT MAKES NOT MENTION OF \$700 MILLION KUWAIT CONTRIBUTION TO THE GULF ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT (GODE). THIS, AND FACT THAT NO FIGURES ARE GIVEN FOR "DEPOSITS" WITH LDC CENTRAL BANKS WHICH ARE UNLIKELY TO BE WITHDRAWN, LEADS US TO THE CONCLUSION THAT FIGURES OF FINANCE MINISTRY REPORT ON KUWAIT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ARE, IF ANYTHING, QUITE CONSERVATIVE AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A MINIMUM ESTIMATE OF KUWAIT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FOR THE PERIOD 1962 THROUGH 1977.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: REPORTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUWAIT01990
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780147-0067

Format: TEL

From: KUWAIT USEEC Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780491/aaaacyzc.tel

Line Count: 244 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 8b13eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 27 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3070793 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: KUWAIT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, 1962-1977

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, KU

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8b13eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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